



MEDIA ADVISORY

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

ATTN: CALENDAR & EDUCATION EDITORS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 8, 2004

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EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION & EARLY LEARNING DEVELOPMENTAL STANDARDS PUBLIC HEARING SET

WHAT: The Department of Human Services is holding a public hearing on Tennessee's new Early Childhood Education/Early Learning Developmental Standards. These Standards represent part of Tennessee's participation in Good Start, Grow Smart. The Standards are intended to help child care providers prepare children from birth to five for successful school and life experiences. The standards consist of speech and language, language literacy, math and science, social studies, creative arts, social emotional and physical development.

Members of the public are encouraged to read the new standards and offer their comments and suggestions. The Standards can be found on the State Board of Education's website at: [http:// www.state.tn.us/sbe/whatsnew.html](http://www.state.tn.us/sbe/whatsnew.html) .

WHEN: Monday, September 20, 2004
1:00 p.m. CST

WHERE: Human Services Citizen's Plaza State Office Building
2nd Floor Boardroom
400 Deaderick St.
Nashville

MORE: The *Good Start, Grow Smart* initiative is a Federal-State partnership that creates linkages between Child Care Development Funds (CCDF), including funds set-aside for quality, and State public and private efforts to promote early learning. The Department of Human Services, along with the Department of Education, Early Childhood Education, Head Start and other interested state and local agencies, developed the voluntary guidelines on language, literacy, pre-reading, and numeracy. A plan for the education and training of child care providers, and a plan for coordination across at least four early childhood programs is being coordinated through the Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

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